

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PEKING 02551 130825Z
ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00
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P 130800Z DEC 76
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6916
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
CINCPAC FOR POLAD PRIORITY

S E C R E T PEKING 2551

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-2
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, CH, US
SUBJECT: CHINESE ASSERTS THAT ROXANE WITKE SPIED FOR CIA

1. A CHINESE PUBLICATIONS CLERK IN PEKING, AFTER BRIEF EXCHANGE OF PLEASANTRIES ON DECEMBER 12, ASKED USLO OFFICER IF HE HAPPENED TO BE ACQUAINTED WITH PROFESSOR ROXANE WITKE. WHEN USLO OFFICER REPLIED THAT HE HAD MET HER BRIEFLY A COUPLE OF TIMES, CLERK ASKED POINT-BLANK IF WITKE WAS EMPLOYED BY U.S. CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY. USLO OFFICER'S CATEGORICAL DENIAL ELICITED PROMPT REJOINDER: "THE CHINESE PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT WITKE WAS A CIA SPY AND ARE ANGRY ABOUT HER ACTIVITIES WITH CHIANG CHING AGAINST THE CHINESE PEOPLE."

2. COMMENT: THE CLERK, WHO USLO OFFICER HAS PREVIOUSLY OBSERVED READING BOTH REFERENCE NEWS (TSAN-KAO HSIAO-HSI) AND REFERENCE MATERIALS (TSAN-KAO TZU-LIAO), PRESUMABLY TOOK ADVANTAGE OF RARE ABSENCE OF OTHER CUSTOMERS OR COLLEAGUES WITHIN EARSHOT TO INQUIRE ABOUT TITILLATING SUBJECT IN CURRENT PARTY GUIDANCE. HIS STATEMENTS WERE NOT MADE IN PARTICULARLY PROVOCATIVE MANNER, AND SUBJECT WAS DROPPED AFTER CONVERSATION.
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